

OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT

MEETING OF THE ENERGY REVIEW TEAM

PUBLIC SESSION

MAY 7TH, 2009

The second meeting of the OERR Energy Review Team was held on Thursday, May 7th, 2009 in Public Session in the offices of the Rhode Island Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island pursuant to notice of the meeting to all Members and public notice of meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto, as required by applicable Rhode Island Law.

The following Members were present and participated throughout the meeting as indicated: Dr. Jeff Seemann, Chairperson; Andy Dzykewicz, Vice-Chairperson; Thomas Ahern; Beth Cotter; John Farley; Kevin Flynn; Dr. Marie Ganim; Samuel Krasnow; Noreen Shawcross. J. Michael Saul was absent from the meeting but represented by his designate Christine M.B. Smith who participated on his behalf.

Also attending the meeting were Dr. Kenneth Payne, other panel staff and members of the general public. Dr. Seemann presided over the

meeting.

Welcome

Dr. Seemann called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm. He thanked the members of the Energy Review Team for attending. Dr. Seemann also expressed gratitude to the members of the panel staff for their hard work over the past week to meet deadlines.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 30th, 2009 Energy Review Team meeting were amended to reflect discussion regarding appeals of grant decisions. The minutes were then approved, as amended, upon a motion duly made by Thomas Ahern and seconded by Kevin Flynn.

Summary of Public Meeting

Dr. Seemann then moved on to summarize the Public Meeting which was held on May 4th, 2009 at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, RI. He expressed the audience present that night was passionate and interested in the topic and thanked them for sharing their concerns. Dr. Seemann then asked Dr. Kenneth Payne to add any additional comments. Dr. Payne acknowledged two concerns, brought up by community members, that he agreed needed extra attention while drafting the State Energy Plan. These two concerns were to:

- 1) Recognize the work of the greenhouse gas stakeholder's process, and

2) Acknowledge those who are not qualified for weatherization assistance, however are still economically challenged to execute those projects themselves.

Review of draft State Energy Plan

In the next order of business, Dr. Seemann asked the Energy Review Team for comments about the draft State Energy Plan they all received from panel staff and to discuss the direction it is headed – particularly the plan aspects of it. He handed the floor to Dr. Payne to summarize where the draft was drawn from. Dr. Payne explained that the Plan is not an invention, but a synthesis of previous thinking and all data included in this plan has been drawn from content already in existence.

Dr. Payne noted this plan discusses transportation issues significantly. He explained that the state of RI cannot reach its goal to be 25% more efficient than 1990 levels if we do not consider transportation issues, due to the state's high consumption of energy. Dr. Payne stated the plan results in a notion to distribute resources into two basic areas:

1) Renewable Energy – allocation of dollars towards utility and community/property owner scale projects; and

2) Efficiency.

Dr. Seemann asked the group to read the draft plan in detail over the weekend and return any comments/concerns to Dr. Payne by Monday, May 11th, 2009 in order to prepare for the Tuesday, May 12th

submission to the Department of Energy. Mr. Andy Dzykewicz then added briefly that the application being submitted to the Department of Energy needs to mimic the State Energy Plan drafted by Dr. Payne. The Energy Review Team was therefore asked to also look at the application, created by panel staff, and note anything they feel was not included in the plan.

A motion to return all comments/concerns to Dr. Payne by the morning of May 11th, 2009 was made by Dr. Marie Ganim and seconded by Kevin Flynn.

Discussion of other elements of the application

Mr. Dzykewicz noted that the order of business to discuss other elements of the application has already been discussed in the reviewing of the draft plan. Mr. Dzykewicz reiterated the fact that they hope the application submitted to the Department of Energy will mirror the state plan that has been assembled by Dr. Payne.

Other business; public comments

There was no other business and no public comments were made.

Date and location of next meeting

No new date or location was designated at this time.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Kristen A. Coogan
Secretary